

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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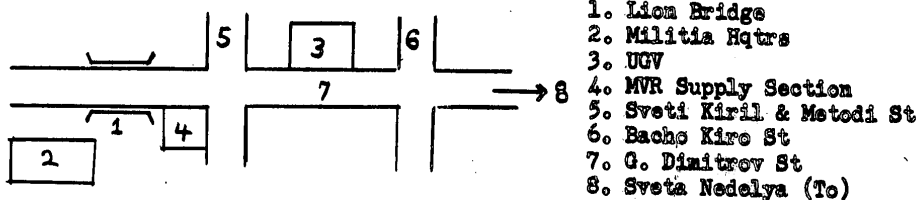
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## BORDER GUARD HEADQUARTERS (UGV)

Location

1. Until January 1955, Border Guard Headquarters occupied the building that the Criminal Militia formerly occupied located on Georgi Dimitrov Street (formerly Mariya Luiza) near the famous Lion Bridge in Sofia. It was situated between Sveti Kiril, Metodi and Bacho Streets just opposite one of the buildings of the Supply Section of the MVR (formerly occupied by the Economic Militia). The UGV was a 3 or 4-story, all-white building occupied only by the Border Guards. The building has no balconies. The building's entrance is on G. Dimitrov Street and leads to a court yard behind the building.



1. Lion Bridge
2. Militia Hqtrs
3. UGV
4. MVR Supply Section
5. Sveti Kiril & Metodi St
6. Bacho Kiro St
7. G. Dimitrov St
8. Sveta Nedelya (To)

2. In January 1955, the UGV was transferred to Dürvenitsa, Sofia and subsequently, the building described above was occupied by the MVR of Sofia Okrug. In the Dürvenitsa quarter, the UGV was set up in one of the large barracks of the Border troops located there. All sections of the UGV were transferred to Dürvenitsa. For the officers working in the UGV, there were two busses which left Sofia at approximately 0630 or 0700 hours and returned at 1700-1800 hours. The busses left from in front of Tsar Boris (now Khristo Botev) Technical school on Graf Ignatiev Street exactly at the point where the street car No. 2 makes a curve.

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Sections

3. The UGV had the following sections:

- |                               |                                     |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. Operational                | i. Medical                          |
| b. Combat                     | j. Veterinary                       |
| c. Border                     | k. Financial                        |
| d. Command elements (stroeva) | l. ATS (Artillery Technical Supply) |
| e. Secret                     | m. Motor Vehicle section            |
| f. Espionage                  | n. Kadri                            |
| g. Political                  | o. Construction                     |
| h. 9th Section (DS)           | p. Coast Guard (separate section)   |
|                               | Chief a Lt. Commander               |
|                               | q. Publishing                       |
|                               | r. Service dogs                     |
|                               | s. Supply                           |

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Soviet Advisors

4. [redacted] there were at least four Russian advisors in the UGV and 14 more in the different Border Otryads (one for each otryad with the exception of the 4th and 16th Border Otryads which together had one Soviet advisor. Of the Soviet advisors attached to the UGV, [redacted]

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- a. Colonel CHUGUNOV - advisor to the Commander of Bulgarian Border troops;

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- b. Colonel SEVASTIYANOVICH - Soviet advisor to the Commander of the Bulgarian Border Guards;

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- c. A third Soviet advisor (name unknown) was attached to the RS section of UGV.

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- d. A fourth Soviet advisor was attached to the UGV Secret section. He was a code cipher specialist. All ciphers used in the Border Guards were Soviet which were sent directly from the Soviet Union. Every year the commo men attached to the different otryads and Kommandaturas were called in for one month of training. This training took place in Sofia under the direction of the Soviet advisor who explained the new ciphers and showed them how to encode and decode.

Before 1 February 1955 there were no Soviet advisors in the Border Otryads. After this date, one was sent to each otryad with the exception of the 4 and 16 Border Otryads which received one advisor for the two - Colonel SAMOLYUK or SAMOLYUS -

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Personnel

5. [redacted] almost 150 border officers worked in UGV. [redacted] because of the busses carrying them every day from Sofia to Durvenitsa and back. [redacted] every morning at least four busses left Sofia, each one loaded with at least 30 officers [redacted] from the main commanding personnel of UGV:

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Personnel (continued)

- a. Major General (General-Major) Slavi CHAKUROV; Commander of the Border Troops from September 1953 to September 1954.

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- b. Major General (General-Major) DIMITROV (fmu); Chief of Staff of UGV;

25X1

- c. Colonel VANKOV; Chief of the 1 Section (Operations) of UGV.

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- d. Colonel VLADIMIROV; probably the Chief of the Border Section.

25X1

- e. Colonel KOPAROV; Chief of the RS Section of UGV; he occupied this post since early 1954;

25X1

- f. Captain TSEKOV; president of the Border Committee. His responsibilities in the RS section were the 4 and 16 Otryads.

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- g. Lieutenant MIKHOVSKI; served in the RS section of UGV;

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25X1

- h. Major KOTSEV or GOTSEV; served in the RS section of UGV;

25X1

- i. Colonel STOYKOV, Chief of the 9 (DS) section of UGV.

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- j. Captain AVRAMOV; served in the 9 (DS) section of UGV; during March or April he came to the 10 Zastava from the 16 Border Otryad of the 2 Komandatura,

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Personnel (continued)

k. Colonel Slavcho RADOMIRSKI; [redacted] former commander of the 4 Border Otryad, Devin; [redacted]

25X1

l. Colonel TRICHKOV; [redacted] prior to 1952 served in the UGV; [redacted]

25X1

m. Colonel ARABADZHIEV; Deputy Chief of Border Troops in the Stroeve Chast. [redacted]

25X1

n. Colonel BASHADZHIEV; supply officer of the UGV. [redacted]

25X1

o. Colonel DAVIDOV; [redacted] he was a precision weapons specialist [redacted]

25X1

p. Colonel PAPALEZOV; [redacted] would be assigned as Otryad commander of the 16 Border Otryad replacing BAKHCHEVANSKI [redacted]

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q. Colonel Kiril YANKOV; political commissar of UGV prior to 1951; subsequently discharged; [redacted]

25X1

r. Lieutenant General KARAKACHANOV; Deputy Minister of the MVR troops (Border Guards and VV - gina). [redacted]

25X1

s. Colonel KONDEV; political commissar [redacted]

25X1

t. Major NENOV; assistant to Colonel VANKOV in 1 (Operational) section of UGV; [redacted]

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u. Major ALADZHOV; Chief of Medical section of UGV.

v. Captain KANTAREV; served in the Medical section.

w. Captain TRENDAFILOV; served in the Medical section.

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SECRET [REDACTED]

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Personnel (continued)

x. Major Lalyu DIMITROV; editor of the Granichar newspaper from the summer of 1953 until May 1955; one of the editors of Narodna Mladost newspaper. [REDACTED]

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y. Captain Khristo PANCHEV; one of the editors of Granichar newspaper; manager of the column about the Border Guards from 1953 until May 1955. [REDACTED]

25X1

z. Captain GEORGIEV; one of the editors of Granichar newspaper; attached to the border guards from the spring of 1955. [REDACTED]

25X1

aa. Captain Ivan VLADKOV; one of the editors of Granichar newspaper; [REDACTED]

25X1

bb. Major ILIEV; served in the Political Section of UGV; [REDACTED]

25X1

cc. Colonel RADOSLAVOV; served in the Political Section of UGV [REDACTED]

25X1

dd. Major TERZIEV; served in the Political Section of UGV; member of the Border Troop officers since 1949; [REDACTED]

25X1

ee. Captain MADZHARSKI; Chief of the Service Dogs Section; [REDACTED]

25X1

ff. Senior Lieutenant IGNATOV; Chief of the Service Dogs Section from the winter of 1954 until May 1955. [REDACTED]

25X1

gg. Captain DRAGANOV; served in the political section of UGV; [REDACTED]

25X1

hh. Captain GEORGIEV; probably member of UGV's Combat Section; [REDACTED]

25X1

ii. Captain PESHEV; during 1952/1953 was company commander in the training school for border officers; Subsequently transferred to UGV. [REDACTED]

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Personnel (continued)

jj. Captain TERZIEV; probably member of the Operational section of UGV;

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kk. Lieutenant DENEV; Deputy Chief of the Service Dogs Section; served in UGV since 1951 in the same position;

25X1

ll. Captain GAGOVSKI; served in the UGV and was on the staff of the newspaper, Granichar; wrote political articles;

mm. Captain TODOROV; served in UGV political section from 1952 until May 1955.

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nn. Captain ZLATANSKI; Party Secretary of the BCP organisation of UGV;

25X1

oo. Major NIKOLOV; member of the UGV Political section;

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## BORDER GUARD TRAINING UNITS ATTACHED DIRECTLY TO UGV

Central Training School of MVR - Simenovo, Sofia Okolitsa

the Central Training School of the MVR is a school for agents (intelligence personnel). all kinds of agents and intelligence personnel are trained here. diplomatic personnel are trained here for intelligence responsibilities outside of the country. RS officers received additional specialisation training at this school; that officers from the Militia, DS, VV, and Border Troops received some type of training here too. the courses given here, were of three periods of time, namely one, two, and three years.

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25X1

a. Senior Lieutenant YURUKOV;

25X1

b. Lieutenant Stefan (lzu);

25X1

c. Senior Lieutenant TSANEV (lzu);

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SECRET [REDACTED]

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Central Training School of MVR (continued)

- [REDACTED]
- (1) Salikh ADRAKHMANOV  
(2) Akhmed KYUCHUKOV
- [REDACTED]

25X1

Training School for Radio Operators, Jammers, and Code Specialists (Zasechnik)

[REDACTED] there was another special training school in Simeonovo (former American College), Sofia. This school was attended primarily by women. There the students were trained to be Morse code specialists and monitoring (Zasichane) of foreign (illegal) transmitters. Every day busses leave Sofia for the school. The busses are boarded on Serdika Street at the corner just opposite the main bath house.

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[REDACTED] There were only two busses. [REDACTED] many of the people who attended the school at Dolni Boyerev had already graduated from the code school in Simeonovo. There was a large building, [REDACTED] in Dolni Boyerev guarded by VV troops where a large mechanism was installed.

25X1

[REDACTED] here was the illegal radio transmitters and jamming station. This special radio station, [REDACTED] was equipped with motor cars with some type of mechanism installed. These cars were used in the location of illegal radios. They would move in the direction of the illegal radio on the direction of one of the specialists.

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25X1

[REDACTED] Also in the area was a machine operated by one person. This machine turned continually and operated on a 24 hour basis. [REDACTED] the machine could pick up radio transmission.

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The Ministry of Interior Training School for Foreign Languages

[REDACTED] This school is located in the so called Cultural building, (Dom na Kulturata) of MVR. The building was the former movie hall Reval on Rakovska Street just opposite the small garden in front of the Sofia Military club. During 1943, this building was destroyed by a bomb dropped by plane; it was later rebuilt and given to the MVR. Now, the movie hall is under the name, Republika, belonging to the MVR; only occasionally are movies shown to the Sofia public. The apartments over the movie hall are owned by MVR too. The top floor (pent house) of the building is the MVR's school of Foreign Languages. This school was attended by Militia, DS, VV, and Border Troops. Only officers were admitted; no enlisted men. The course was 1 year in duration. The students in the school learned one of the following languages; English, French, German, Greek, Turkish, and Yugoslavian.

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Language School (continued)

9. Most of the students here learned English. [redacted] one Border Troop officer admitted to the school. [redacted] women were not admitted in the school. The above-mentioned Border Officer was Lieutenant STANKOV (fnu) [redacted]

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10. The movie hall was used by the training school and very often by the DS and Militia. There were projected intelligence shows and training shows; after each show there was a discussion.

1. [redacted] the Border Troops were very short of qualified translators. Often correspondence arrived asking for soldiers who spoke a foreign language. [redacted] another training school for foreign languages was to be established in Bulgaria. During March 1955 at the Obshtegraniashnata party conference [redacted] Lieutenant General KARAKACHANOV say to CHAKUROV that a new school for Foreign Languages (especially for the Border Troops) would be established in Bulgaria.

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Training School for Border Guard Officers (Narodno Voenno Granichno Uchilishte: National Military Border School)

2. This school is located in the Dürvenitsa quarter of Sofia. [redacted] until 1953 there were two training schools for border officers in Durvenitsa:

25X1

- a. 1 year training school for Streevi Border Guard officers  
b. 6 months training school for political Border Guard officers

Subsequently, these two schools were combined in one general training school. The reason was due to the fact that the Border Troop Commander realized that the political officers were poorly trained in troop functions outside of the political field; consequently, the two schools were merged. This took place in September 1953 [redacted]

[redacted] The school occupied some of the barracks where the UVV is now; probably the barracks of 99-60. The training period was 1 year. Most of the people admitted to this school were civilians who had completed their military obligation in the past. These students simply received orders from the Party to attend this training school. Also admitted to the school were youths serving their regular military service in one of the Border Guard units. Never were students selected for this school unless they had completed the training battalion, Punkt, or Komandatura. This group is selected from volunteers and the selection is mostly based upon political reliability.

25X1

[redacted] The first few weeks [redacted] all new candidates received general training prescribed for the border guards; subsequently, they were separated into the following specializations: a. Streevi officers, b. Political officers, c. Supply officers, d. Intelligence officers, and, e. Chemical officers. Until the end of their course, the candidates received training in their particular specialization plus training of a general nature. The general training was directed at the officers in a non-command function so as to enable them to take command of the unit in the absence of its commander. With this system the Border Guards received more qualified political officers.

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3.

25X1

the training period in the school for border officers was supposed to be increased to 3 years. Previously, in October 1954, a captain

said that the youth would be recruited immediately after they had completed high school.

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25X1

the 3 year period would be counted as part of the regular military service. After completing this course, the graduates would be assigned as officers to one of the border units. During this three year period the candidates do not receive any money. this is one of the differences between the old and new school and also represents one of the means by which the Bulgarian Communist Party saves money. Presently, the candidates in the one year course receive 700 Leva (sic) and some additional money.

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25X1

DAVIDOV, served in the UGV and use to test new officers on their weapons ability. He was known as a very good weapons specialist.

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25X1

a recent graduate from the one year school, Lieutenant Many Petrov ARBOV, political commander of 11 Zastava of 3 Komandatura, 16 Border Otryad, Dospat.

25X1

#### Refresher Course for Street Border Guard Officers

It is located in the UGV area in Dfirvenitsa (probably the barracks of 99-60). The duration of the course is 1 year and the officers are intergrated in the school from the various Border units. No political officers are sent to the school. Upon completion of the refresher school, the officers are usually sent back to their past assignment; however, in some cases, officers would receive new assignments. When an officer received orders to attend the refresher school, his records were transferred to the school; he also received his pay from the school. Promotions were not received as a reward for completion of the course nor did the graduates get a diploma.

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during the month of May 1955 the following officers from the 16 Border Otryad were called to the refresher school:

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a. Senior Lieutenant RADICHEV

c. Lieutenant ARSOV

b. Lieutenant Velko PETROV

d. Lieutenant Boshilov

#### Refresher Course for Border Sergeants

The refresher school for sergeants is located in Ardino. It was established in March or April 1954. Supposedly, all sergeants are to attend the school at one time or another. the school was 1 year in duration and broken into 4 parts. Upon completion of the course, the sergeants usually returned to their old units. There were no change in the salaries while attending the school.

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25X1

during the spring of 1955 a sergeant from 3 Komandatura, 16 Border Otryad, Dospat, attended the school (Sgt.1/c ATANASOV of 14 Zastava). This school was intended for career sergeants (usually those with many years past service) and those sergeants who are serving their regular obligated tour do not attend.

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Training School for Border Junior Sergeants (Shkola za Mladshi Serzhanti)

18. Until 1951 the school was named Khadzhi Dimitur; subsequently, the podelenie numbers were established and the school no longer had a name.

[redacted] in 1951 the school was located somewhere in Bankya, Sofia; in 1952 in Dürvenitsa, and during 1953 and 54 in Ardino. [redacted] during 1953 and 1954 the recruit classes of 1933 and 1934 started their training in the school during the spring (probably in February or March). This training started after they had completed the Otryad's training battalion. Around September they came to the zastavas for 1 month of stazh (practical training). After this, they returned to Ardino where examinations and promotions were given and subsequently, the new graduates were sent to the zastavas for regular service.

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19.

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Sergeant's School for Service Dog Instructors (Serzhanaka Shkola za Instruktori na Sluzhebni Kucheta: SSHISK)

20. Until 1949, the school was attached to the Militia. It occupied the barracks between the Seminariata Quarter and the railway station in Seminariata. In 1949 the school was transferred to the Border Troops but remained in the same barracks. In October 1950 it was moved from the barracks to the railroad station, Zemen, Radomir Okoliya. It's new building was located 500-600 meters East of the Zemen railroad station and beside the high school. Here, in Zemen, during the fall of 1950, the first training period began. The course was 6 months in duration and ended during March 1951. Until the beginning of 1952 there were no more training periods; however, during the summer of 1952 the second training period begun also being 6 months in duration.

[redacted] during this second training period the men and dogs were at summer camp somewhere close to the village of Debeli Lak, Radomir Okoliya. During the month of October 1952 the third period of training begun.

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This training period was also six months in duration and was over on 25 April 1953. By the 1st of May the men and dogs were at the zastavas. Approximately 100 soldiers were gathered from all the otryads to begin the third training period. These 100 men formed a company, the company forming 3 platoons, and each platoon forming 3 squads. Of the commanding personnel in the training school, [redacted]

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[redacted] Captain TODOROV, Chief of the school; and,

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- a. Captain ZHEKOV; political commander; [redacted]

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- b. Lieutenant VULCHEV; company commander; [redacted]

25X1

- c. Senior Lieutenant ANGELOV; Veterinary doctor; [redacted]

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- d. Senior Lieutenant BOGDANOV; [redacted]

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[redacted] subject trained the first course in

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e. Senior Lieutenant IGNATOV; [REDACTED]

25X1

f. Lieutenant TRAKIEV; [REDACTED]

25X1

g. Sergeant Georgi ILIEVSKI; Sofia Okoliya; Chief of Razvudn, [REDACTED]

25X1

h. Senior Sergeant GEORGIEV; first sergeant of the company; [REDACTED]

25X1

i. Sergeant DAKOV; platoon sergeant in the school; [REDACTED]

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1. Of the soldiers attending the school during the period October 1952 to May 1953, [REDACTED]  
 their respective dog's names are included and underlined.

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a. Kostadin Dimitrov MILEV, [REDACTED]  
Meteor.

25X1

b. Stefan Marinov STEFANOV; [REDACTED]  
Medik.

25X1

c. Dobri NIKOLOV; [REDACTED] Moment.

25X1

d. Veliko Todorov FICHEV; [REDACTED]  
Mat.

25X1

e. Georgi Petrov NIKOLOV; [REDACTED] Dragoman.

25X1

f. Ivan KOSTOV; [REDACTED] Dragoman.

25X1

g. Ivan TSVETKOV; [REDACTED] Burgas.

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While attending the school, the soldiers were not engaged in other types of training. Few of the soldiers carried weapons; however, daily, all students had pistol training.

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Dogs in the School

2. [ ] there were more than one thousand dogs in the school (all sizes, sexes and breeds). To all soldiers attending the school, a dog was attached. Approximately one hundred dogs remained in the school on a attached-to-the-student basis. The other nine hundred were used as follows:

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- a. Sentinel Dogs - used for blockpost and generally not trained
- b. Operational Dogs - Very highly trained receiving training on a daily basis; these dogs were used for missions within the interior. Upon completion of such missions they were returned to the school. Eastern European Shepherd dogs were usually used for this work.
- c. Border Otryad Dogs - these dogs were untrained and used for blockposts and the local training schools of the various otryads.
- d. MNO Dogs - partially trained dogs with the training being given by MNO soldiers; these dogs are used for guarding gates, storehouses, ammo dumps, etc.

During 1951-1952 many of the dogs in the school died from diseases known as Gana and Beg. Many kennels were built in the area of the school each one being completely separate from the other. The small puppies were kept with their mother until they were approximately five months old. Each kennel had a name plate of the dog inside.

[ ] the names of the one hundred dogs, used in the school for students, all started with the same letter (from October 1952 to April 1953 the letter was M, Medik, Mat, Meteor, Mement, etc.).

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3. Once yearly, except from the training school at Zemen, soldiers from the MNO (including the air force) came to the school to work with and train the dogs. Each soldier was given two and sometimes three dogs. These soldiers consisted of one platoon (40-50 men) living somewhere west of the railroad. During their one month stay at the school, the soldiers trained the dogs to bark and be useful around blockposts, storehouses, dumps and etc.
4. The training school had a jeep that was used exclusively for the transportation of the dogs to the places where they were needed. The school commander could not use this jeep.
5. There were no text books kept in the school. During instruction the soldiers kept notes and upon completion of the school all notes were gathered and destroyed. No soldier was allowed to leave with his notes.
6. Promotions were given upon completion of the school. The ranks to which the soldiers were promoted depended on how well their respective dogs were trained. The soldiers whose dogs were trained the best received senior sergeant ratings; the average trained and poorly trained receiving sergeant and junior sergeant ratings respectively. Upon completion of training, the soldiers were sent to the various otryads taking their respective dogs with them. Individual records were made on each dog; the record contained the dog's breed, parents, training received, ability, success in the five point system, picture, usefulness, and the number of hours the dog can be expected to work. The official records of the dogs were maintained in their respective komandaturas. Any change in the dog's status was placed in the record; also, each dog received a serial number. When one of the dogs was taken to a zastava for action the zastava commander was required to fill out a form stating the time of arrival and departure of the dog, type of job, number of hours, what conditions, and what results were obtained.

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7. Upon completion of the school, the soldiers and their dogs were given a lengthy examination by a committee from the UGV. This committee was composed of 5 or 6 officers (during April 1953, the committee was headed by VANKOV). The examination consisted of two parts, the first being theory and, secondly, the dog and soldier's practical knowledge. The dog's general knowledge and discipline were examined in two parts as follows:

1. a. response to his master's call  
b. ability to walk in stride with master  
c. sitting  
d. lying
- e. Creeping  
f. Motionless position (most difficult)  
g. Swimming
2. Special Training
  - a. trailing (Sledova rabota)
  - b. viciousness (Razvitie na zloba)
  - c. refusal of food kum istrel)
  - d. indifference to gunfire (Bezrazlichie)
  - e. overcoming obstacles (Preodolyavane preyatstvie)
  - f. guarding equipment (Okhrana na Veshti)
  - g. guarding people (Okhrana na chovek)
  - h. fetching (Aportirovka)
  - i. Identification of people (Izbor na chovek)
  - j. Identification of material (Izbor na veshti)
  - k. searching (Obisk na mestnost)

In general discipline, the dog received one mark; in specialized training the dog received one mark for each subject. On these marks, the dogs were appraised. A dog that could trail for 12 hours without losing the tracks was appraised at 5000-6000 Leva; (example: FEO now serving at the Berkovitsa school). One that could only trail 1-3 hours and possibly loose the trail was appraised at 200-300 Leva.

8. Another examination that was given to the dogs consisted of the following: a square 100 x 100 meters was set off by stones painted white. On one side of the square there was a corridor 2.5 meters wide, half of which was covered with clean earth and the other half with filth and dirty water. The following exercises were to be effected:

- a. A soldier would leave the dog sitting at the entrance to the corridor, go to the opposite side, and from there, by means of gestures and without speaking, give commands which the dog would follow.
- b. A soldier would start walking from the corridor and make a complete circle along the white stones without speaking to the dog who was to heel.
- c. Same test as in a above, except that all the other soldiers around the square would shout commands and names at the dog and make signs with their hands. The dog was to ignore all the others and follow only the hand signals of his master.
- d. A dog would be commanded to remain in the filth and dirty water; then the instructor would leave and the dog was to remain in the same position.

The above-mentioned tests were for general discipline.

9. The tests the dogs received in special training are as follows:

a. Choice of Objects

Twenty sticks were gathered and each stick given to a different soldier to hold and even break. Subsequently the sticks were gathered and the instructor would add another stick to the pile (with some identifying mark). The dog was to select the stick added by his instructor. This test was repeated three times; on the third test the dog was to select a stick added by one of the soldiers.

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35. During this time the border troops for the saper regiment were recruited directly and were not taken from the border otryads. They were given a certain amount of training [redacted] after which during the summer groups of them were sent to the different otryads to prepare some technical engineering equipment. During the winter they were again assembled in Dürvenitsa where they received additional training. This system did not work too well because the sapers were generally needed more in the winter than in the summer and had to be sent from Dürvenitsa. A new system was created.

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36. The new system entirely deactivated the saper regiment and instead, a saper zastava was assigned to each otryad (Sapyorna Zastava). This saper zastava had no connection with the otryad reserve company. The new saper zastava consisted of 60-70 soldiers, all being saper specialists. The commanding personnel consisted of 3 officers; a. commander; b. political commander; c. streevi. Also there was a sergeant of long service on the table of command. The table of organization was exactly the same as a regular zastava. The soldiers were armed with sub-machine guns and carbines.

37. The training the new saper sastavas received was not in Dürvenitsa but in its respective otryad. All members of the new saper sastava first took basic training in the regular komandatura and then went to the sastava for saper training. The new system enabled the otryads to receive saper assistance on a continuing basis. No further details.

MNO Training School for Pyre-Specialists (Mine and Trip-wire) Piretekhicheski Sredstva

38. [redacted] the pyre-specialists received their training in the central training school of the MNO.

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MNO Training School for Drivers

39. [redacted] there was no independent school for drivers in the MVR or border troops, and consequently, soldiers that were to be drivers were sent to the MNO Training School for Drivers. [redacted] the MNO had two such schools in the country; the first in Sofia and the second one in Plevdiv. The course lasted one year. [redacted] only 4-6 soldiers from each border otryad were sent to the school. Around 1 February 1955 a telephone call was received in the 11 Zastava asking for candidates for the driver's school. Many soldiers volunteered, but the commander, (Senior Lt. Dimitar STOEV) did not permit them to attend because they were the best soldiers in the sastava.

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Officers from the Border Troops sent to the Soviet Union for Specialization

40. [redacted] periodically officers from the border troops were sent to the Soviet Union for training. During the late spring of 1954, officers were sent to

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the Soviet Union and completed a one year of training for commanders. The same officers returned to Bulgaria to occupy their respective commands around 5 May 1955. Two of the officers from the 16 Border Otryad that were in the above group are:

Captain STOEV - commander of the 1 Komandatura, and Captain VILKOV - commander of the 3 Komandatura.

three more officers from the 16 Border Otryad are slated to go to the Soviet Union for training. Colonel BAKHCHEVANSKI, commander of the 16 Otryad, received 1 year of training in 1951/52 in the Soviet Union.

he, (BAKHCHEVANSKI) is suppose to go again to the Soviet Union for three additional years of training.

all officers, except the ones receiving training with dogs, received their training in Moscow.

all the officers that received training for service dogs in the Soviet Union were at Alma Ata in the Caucasus. The Alma Ata training school is made of many companies. One of these companies is international being composed of Bulgarians, Czechs, Rumanians, Albanians, Chinese, Poles, and Hungarians.

the training school was located in a desert outside of Alma Ata. The dogs were delivered to that school from an organization known as "DOSARM" (Voluntary Organization for Assistance to the Army). the following types of dogs were at this school:

- a. Istochna Evropeyska Ovcharka (East European shepherd dogs) (Vulcha Poroda - Wolf breed).
- b. Kavkaska Ovcharka (Caucasus shepherd dogs - savage type)
- c. Sredno Aziatska Ovcharka - Chebancki Kuchta (Central Asiatic shepherd dogs)
- d. Sibirska Layika - Upregatni Kucheta (Siberian Barker - sled dogs)

Type a, above, was the more prominent of the school. The type of training the dogs received was the same as that stated for the Bulgarian Border Troops. The official textbook for the Russian school was "Sovetskoe Sabakevudstvo."

#### Otryads directly attached to the UGV

41.

there were 16 border otryads in Bulgaria before March 1955. the party conference of the border troops held in the Republika movie hall in Sofia. Sixteen delegates were present at this conference. Concerning the location of the 16 otryads,

- a. The 1 Border Otryad: Kula; prior to fall 1952 probably in Belogradchik
- b. The 2 Border Otryad: Dragoman; with a komandatura (probably 3 Komandatura) at Trun with zastava at Zelenigrad (on Rugi mountain), Miroslavtsi (west of the village), Nasulevtsi (500 meters west of the village), and at Strezimirevsti in the village.  
Second komandatura at Reyantovtsi (new komandatura, formed in 1953), with zastava at Dainchovtsi and Bokheva.
- c. The 3 Border Otryad: Petrich
- d. The 4 Border Otryad: Smolyan; 44-50; prior to March 1953 in Devin
- e. The 5 Border Otryad: unknown
- f. The 6 Border Otryad: Elkhovo; with komandatura at Varnik, Elkhovo Okoliya
- g. The 7 Border Otryad: M. Turnovo
- h. The 8 Border Otryad: Burgas
- i. The 9 Border Otryad: Stalin
- j. The 10 Border Otryad: Dobrich
- k. The 11 Border Otryad: Kyustendil
- l. The 12 Border Otryad: Pirin (?)
- m. The 13 Border Otryad: Lyubimets
- n. The 14 Border Otryad: unknown
- o. The 15 Border Otryad: unknown
- p. The 16 Border Otryad: Nevrokop, 66-70.

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42. [redacted] there are independent Komandaturas, i.e., Komandaturas that are not an organizational part of an otryad, but are directly assigned to the UGV. The following are such Komandaturas:

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a. Komandatura at Nevrokop; [redacted] it was an independent Komandatura at Nevrokop prior to 3 April 1953 when it was transferred to the new barracks in Koprivlen. [redacted] A reserve zastava was assigned to the Komandatura.

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b. Komandatura at Chiprovtsi; located between 1 and 2 Border Otryads.

c. Komandatura located between 5 and 13 Border Otryads

[redacted] the reason for the establishment of such independent Komandaturas is the length of rayons between neighboring otryads. When these rayons are large, the otryads are handicapped because of such broad area to cover, thus these independent komandaturas were organized and attached directly to the UGV. They are used as fillers between the otryads.

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#### KPP - Kontrolen Propuskatelen Punkt

43. KPP is a border unit that is attached directly to UGV. It's function was to check all documents on the international railroad, rivers, highways, and seaways. The international airlines were excluded; their checks were made by the DS. The luggage was not checked by this unit; this was performed by the Bulgarian Customs-House personnel. [redacted] such KPP units were at the following places:  
a. Ruse bridge; b. Burgas port; and c. Svilengrad (International Railroad Station).  
[redacted] KPP unit at the Ruse bridge had approximately 100 soldiers assigned commanded by a Major [redacted]. This unit performed the following duties:

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- a. Encirclement of train; when the train arrived, it stopped at the new railroad station. The train was encircled by the soldiers while 4 or 5 soldiers and an officer entered the train to check a number items (number of people, documents, etc.). Notes were taken. The train remained at the station for one hour while the locomotives were changed. The old locomotive taken off and placed on a train going back to Rumania. A new Locomotive was placed on the train and it continued on to Sofia.
- b. Complete check of all documents
- c. Guarding of the bridge. The guard detail of the bridge was both Bulgarian and Rumanian.

At the bridge, the crew for the train changed. One month the locomotive for the train was furnished by Bulgaria and the next month by Rumania.

[redacted] this unit occupied new barracks somewhere near the bridge. All the soldiers were hand picked. [redacted] they were hand picked because they were on international display. [redacted] the podalenie No. of this unit is 0-50.

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[redacted] The uniforms in this unit were not quite the same as other border units. Breeches were worn instead of Klins. Belts were worn with a large star on them. In the normal border units only the sergeants with much service wear such belts.

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## 44. KPP unit at Burgas Port: The [REDACTED]

checking of the ships that arrived at Burgas Port. All ships were checked completely by one officer and 5 or 6 soldiers. If chovali were on the ship, the soldiers checked them with long iron rods. Machine rooms, engine rooms, and all compartments were thoroughly checked. [REDACTED] the checks were mostly made for hidden people. The uniforms worn at this unit were the same as those worn by the soldiers at the Ruse Bridge unit.

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Granichna Morska Okhrana (Border Sea Guard)

## 45. [REDACTED] in UGV there was a Navy LtCdr (dressed in Navy uniform) who was in the same office with the Service Dogs section.

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[REDACTED] soldiers were asked to transfer to Burgas GMO. These soldiers were from the various otryads; (this could mean that GMO was a part of UGV).

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Reserve Regiment of Border Troops - Beogradchik

[REDACTED] until October 1953 there was a reserve regiment of border troops in Beogradchik [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the regiment was composed of the following companies:  
 a. Mortar company b. Heavy machinegun company c. Rifle company d. Saper company  
 e. Communications company f. Cavalry company  
 Attempts were made to make this regiment an ideal Soviet model; this is probably the reason for the addition of a Cavalry company to the regiment. [REDACTED]  
 later, it was realized that the areas of the border guards were not the type that required cavalry so all the cavalry units in the border guards were dissolved. [REDACTED]

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SECRET [REDACTED]

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